

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

- Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13-20 are pending in the Application after entry of this amendment.
- Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13-20 are finally rejected by Examiner.
- Claims 1 and 10 are amended by Applicant.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,538,880 to Kamijo et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Kamijo et al. discloses a notebook PC 110, also referred to as a mainframe PC, a mainframe and a PC mainframe (col. 3 line 53 though col. 4 line 14), and an input/output apparatus 120 which may be embodied as a PDA (col. 4 lines 11-14). The PC mainframe 110 is configured to accept the input/output device 120 (Figure 1). The input/output device 120 may operate independently of the PC mainframe 110 or it may be operable if within wireless communication range (col. 3 lines 40-47 and col. 3 lines 61-67).

Amended Claim 1 recites:

1. A docking station for a mobile computer, *the docking station absent a computer core when the mobile computer is uninstalled*, the docking station comprising:
 - a port for receiving the mobile computer;
 - a communication interface for communicating with at least one external computer, *wherein the external computer and the mobile computer are separate computers*; and
 - a display for depicting information exchanged with the at least one external computer;
 - wherein the docking station is itself mobile and enables the communication interface to acquire *the information of the external computer* and to display the information *when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communications with the docking station*; and wherein the docking station enables communications with the mobile computer when the mobile computer is installed into the port.

Amended Claim 1 recites a docking station that is absent a computer core when a mobile computer is not installed. Amended Claim 1 also explicitly recites that the mobile computer and the at least one external computer are separate computers. Moreover, amended Claim 1 recites that the docking station enables the communications interface to acquire and display information of the external computer when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communications with the docking station.

The teaching of Kamijo et al. is distinct from amended Claim 1 for several reasons. Kamijo et al. is distinct from amended Claim 1 because the docking port 1110 (Kamijo, Figure 11) is built into a mainframe PC 110 (Kamijo, Figures 1 and 11). Claim 1 explicitly recites that the docking station, which comprises a port for receiving a mobile computer, is absent a computer core when a mobile computer is not installed. Stated another way, when the input/output device 120 of Kamijo et al. is removed, a full PC mainframe 110 remains (Kamijo, Figure 1). In contrast, when the mobile computer 220 of the present invention is removed from the docking station 210 (present application, Figure 2), a docking station without a computer core remains (present specification, paragraph 0012). Applicant submits that a PC mainframe is a computer core and a docking station and a PC mainframe are two separate entities of differing capabilities. Also, amended Claim 1 addresses a docking station whereas Applicant notes that Kamijo et al. makes no mention at all of a docking station of any type for the PC mainframe 110.

Yet another distinction between Kamijo et al. and amended Claim 1 is that Kamijo et al. does not disclose an external computer which is separate from the PC mainframe and the input/output device. Claim 1 recites that the mobile computer 220 is a separate computer from the external computer 230 (present application, Figure 2). Although Kamijo et al. teaches that the input/output device 120 may communicate with the PC Mainframe 110 using a radio communication function (col. 3 lines 61-67), no communication link at all is needed between the mobile computer 220 and the docking station 210 for the docking station 210 to exchange information with the external computer 230. Amended Claim 1 recites that “the docking station...enables the communications interface to acquire the information of the external computer and to display the information when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communications with the docking station”. Kamijo et al. is without this teaching.

Since Kamijo et al. fails to teach or suggest a docking station that is absent a computer core when the mobile computer is uninstalled and a docking station that can acquire and display information from an external computer when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communication, then Kamijo et al. cannot anticipate amended independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102(a) rejection and submits that amended independent Claim 1 patentably defines over the cited art. Additionally, since Claims 2-4 and 6-9 depend on independent Claim 1, they too patentably define over the cited art.

Similarly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §102(a) rejection of amended independent Claim 10 because this claim has similar elements to Claim 1 which Kamijo et al. fails to disclose. Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 10 also patentably defines over the cited art. Additionally, since Claims 11, 13-15 and 19-20 depend on amended independent Claim 10, they too patentably define over the cited art.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,538,880 to Kamijo et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,778,519 to Goshey et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Examiner states that Kamijo et al. meets all of the limitations as applied to Claim 10, but fails to teach that the at least one external device is one or more of a remote computer and a peripheral device, and further that the remote computer be one or more of a desktop computer and a laptop computer, or that the peripheral device is one or more of a computer system and a standalone peripheral device.

As stated above, Kamijo et al. fails to teach or suggest a docking station that is absent a computer core when the mobile computer is uninstalled and a docking station that can acquire and display information from an external computer when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communication as recited in amended Claim 10.

Goshey et al. discloses a system for transparently sharing peripheral devices over a network where a first computer acts as a server that can share its peripheral devices and the second computer acts as a client that can access the server's peripheral devices. (Abstract).

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Applicant submits that Goshey et al. has the same deficiency of teaching as Kamijo et al. in that neither disclose a docking station that is absent a computer core when the mobile computer is uninstalled and a docking station that can acquire and display information from an external computer when the mobile computer is both uninstalled and without communication as recited in amended independent Claim 10.

Since all elements of Claim 10 are not taught or suggest in either Kamijo et al. or Goshey et al., either considered separately or in combination, then these cited references cannot render independent Claim 10 or its dependent Claims 16-18 obvious. Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 16-18 thus patentably define over the cited art. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of dependent Claims 16-18.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in a condition for allowance upon entry of the amendments herein. Applicants respectfully and earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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